

## Message Text

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USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUXEMBOURG 0854

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ECIN

SUBJ: PRIME MINISTER COMMENTS ON US CONSULTATIONS WITH EC AND  
WITHIN NATO

1. IN DECEMBER 17 CONVERSATION WITH PRIME MINISTER, I  
ASKED THORN HOW HE VIEWED THE RESULTS OF RECENT CONSULTA-  
TIONS BETWEEN THE US AND THE EC ON THE ONE HAND, AND  
WITHIN NATO ON THE OTHER.

2. THORN REPLIED THAT THE ABSENCE OF EC POLICY COORDINA-  
TION MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR EFFECTIVE US/EC CONSULTATIONS  
TO OCCUR. NO REAL UNDERSTANDING OR COMMUNICATION IS  
POSSIBLE IN THIS CHANNEL AS LONG AS THE EC REMAINS  
FRAGMENTED. SOME CRITICS OF THE US IN WESTERN EUROPE,  
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SUCH AS MICHEL JOBERT, CLAIM THAT THE WEAKNESS IN THE

EC STEMS FROM FUNDAMENTAL US OPPOSITION TO A UNITED EUROPE. BUT ACCORDING TO THORN, ONLY A SMALL PART OF THE EC'S CURRENT PROBLEMS COMES FROM THE US.

3. THORN WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE RECENT NATO MINISTERIAL MEETING WAS "THE BEST IN MANY YEARS". HE APPRECIATED NOT ONLY THE HIGH CALIBER US PRESENTATIONS IN BRUSSELS BUT THE SUSTAINED AMERICAN EFFORT TO CONSULT WITH THE NATO ALLIES ON A WIDE RANGE OF ISSUES, INCLUDING KEY SUBJECTS OUTSIDE OF THE TREATY AREA.

4. HAVING JUST READ THE MARTINIQUE COMMUNIQUE, THORN STATED THAT HIS FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF THE RESULTS OF THE MEETING WERE VERY POSITIVE. NOTING THE REFERENCE TO "ADDITIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETINGS" FOR ECONOMIC COORDINATION AMONG THE INDUSTRIAL NATIONS, THORN OBSERVED THAT THE US AND LARGER EC NATIONS SHOULD BE MORE ALERT TO THE SENSITIVITIES OF THEIR SMALLER EC AND NATO PARTNERS IN THE ORGANIZATION OF SUCH SESSIONS. THORN SAID THAT THE US COULD BEST PROVE OUR "SUPPORT FOR EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE EUROPEAN UNITY" (TAKEN FROM THE MARTINIQUE COMMUNIQUE) AS WELL AS THE AMERICAN COMMITMENT TO THE ATLANTIC COMMUNITY BY INSISTING THAT ALL OUR EUROPEAN ALLIES BE INVITED TO ATTEND THE VARIOUS ECONOMIC COORDINATING SESSIONS BEING PLANNED. WITHOUT NAMING THE SPECIFIC NEGOTIATIONS WHICH THE GOL WANTS TO ATTEND, THORN EXPLAINED THAT THE G-5, G-10, AND OTHER SELECTIVE GROUPINGS OF THE US'S CLOSE PARTNERS CREATE UNNECESSARY RESENTMENT AT A TIME GOOD US/EC AND NATO RELATIONS ARE OF CRITICAL IMPORTANCE.FARKAS

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